

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of October 25, 2004**

1. **Bi-County Transitway (All wards):** An open-house style public meeting regarding the Bi-County Transitway (or Purple Line) is scheduled for Nov. 8, 4-8 pm, at the Langley Park Community Center at 1500 Merrimac Drive. It is being held and staffed by the Maryland Transit Administration. This is the community's opportunity to express support (or not) for a transit line that connects Bethesda, Silver Spring, Takoma/Langley, College Park and New Carrollton; to express the preference of either a light rail system or bus rapid transit system; and to comment on possible routes and stops. This is a critical phase in the planning for this transit system so substantial public comment at this time is important. Four similar meetings will be held in November in other communities along the proposed transit route. For more information, see the information on the City's web page, www.cityoftakomapark.org. (*Community & Government Liaison*)
2. **Maryland State Delegation Public Hearings (All wards):** In November, the Maryland State senators and delegates representing districts in Montgomery County will be holding public hearings on bills affecting just Montgomery County. Two bills, one that authorizes speed cameras (MC 513-05) and one that prohibits a person from standing in a road or median to solicit money or donations (MC 502-05), are consistent with the City's goal of promoting pedestrian and driver safety. A city representative will testify in support of these bills, but if others wish to testify as well, they should go to www.montgomerycountydelegation.com and click on County Legislation to get more information and to sign up to testify. Although the Legislative Session doesn't begin until January, this is the time to testify on behalf of these proposals. (*Community & Government Liaison*)
3. **Gateway and Wayfinding Community Forum:** The community forum for the development of the Gateway and Wayfinding signage system took place on Tuesday night at Montgomery College. There was strong consensus for one of the sign options presented by Terry Healy of Gallagher & Associates which is one of two sign concepts that will be presented to the Council on Monday night. (*Housing and Community Development*)
4. **Rabid Raccoons (Wards 1 & 2):** A Raccoons and Rabies informational program will be offered Monday, 7 p.m., at the Takoma Park Presbyterian Church, Tulip and Maple Avenues, organized by Ofc. Smith. Ofc. Conrad, W Sector Specialist, and NAS Rice also are working the raccoon issue. (Wards 1 & 3) No additional incidents have been reported in the past week. (*Police*)
5. **Old Town Residents' Association Meeting (Ward 1):** Ofc. Smith and D/Cpl. John, V Sector Specialist and investigator, attended the monthly OTRA meeting on Thursday evening. (*Police*)
6. **Capacity Building Program:** The Takoma Park Community Advisory Committee notified the city that it had received funding from the Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$9,000. The money will be available for use in January 2006 and will help offset the costs for the Capacity Building Program. (*Housing and Community Development*)
7. **Halloween Events for Saturday, October 30:** Starting at 5 p.m. the ghouls and goblins haunt the streets of Old Town. There will be a costume contest on the corner of Carroll and

Laurel Avenues deciding the funniest, scariest and most original costumes for children and adults. Following the contest at approximately 6 p.m. we will parade down Carroll and Philadelphia behind the great fire truck of TPVFD, ending up at the Piney branch Elementary School. To conclude the evening we will be entertained and mesmerized by Louis the Magician at the PBES multi-purpose room. Halloween treats will be supplied there by the Lion's Club. Don't miss this long standing Takoma Park tradition! (*Recreation Department*)

8. **Police Candidates:** An entrance exam for communications dispatchers was given last weekend; five of seven candidates passed. (*Police*)

9. **TP Film Festival Reception:** A reception for filmmakers and supporters of the Takoma Park Film Festival will be held on the final day of the festival. Join us on Sunday November 14 at 6:00 PM in the lobby of the Takoma Theatre at 6833 4th. Street NW. Letters of invitation have been included in this week's Action packet for City Council members. (*Library*)

10. **Annual ICMA Conference (All wards):** Community and Government Liaison Suzanne Ludlow attended the annual conference of the International City/County Management Association in San Diego last week. Takoma Park community policing consultant Dr. Gayle Fisher-Stewart presented a session "Measuring Community Policing at the Local Level: Back to the Future," on how to customize community-oriented public safety to meet the distinct needs of communities. Information from several other interesting sessions will be shared with City Council and staff. (*Community & Government Liaison*)

11. **Officers in Training:** Chief Creamer attended the Maryland Public Employer Labor Relations Assn. conference in Baltimore. Seven officers attended a four-day training, "Practical Crime Scene Investigation and Processing." Two officers attended Taser Instructor training, which is a nonlethal secondary weapon. (*Police*)

12. **Managers in Conference:** Maryland Public Employees Labor Relations Association Conference was held on October 28th in Baltimore. Chief Creamer, Deputy City Manager Wayne Hobbs, Suzanne Ludlow, Alfred Lott and Karen Hampton attended this very informative conference. (*Deputy City Manager*)

13. **Affordable Housing:** On October 28, Linda Walker attended a Symposium sponsored by Montgomery County and AARP Maryland in regard to Identifying and Preventing Consumer Scams in the Hispanic Community. Predatory lending practices and home improvement scams have been on the rise in Montgomery County and the Hispanic population has often been the target. Speakers from the Federal Trade Commission, The Montgomery County Office of Consumer Affairs, AARP, and the US Postal Service spoke about the issues. The goal is to get more non-profit organizations and governmental entities involved in the effort to education the public on consumer scams so that county residents do not become victims. All speakers emphasized that no matter what your legal status is in the US, everyone has a right to be protected under federal, state and county consumer protection laws and no one should be afraid to file a complaint if they have been victimized. An bilingual article will appear soon in the Newsletter. (*Housing and Community Development*)

14. **Snow Removal Training:** The Public Works Department will be conducting snow removal training for Right of Way and Sanitation employees at the Public Works facility on

Saturday, Oct 30, 2004. The training will be conducted between 8:00am and 1200pm. The employees will be trained on the snow plow, the Backhoe, the Bobcat and the dump truck.
(*Public Works*)

15. **Crimes and arrests for the period October 22 - October 28, 2004 are shown in the attached blotter.**

**TAKOMA PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRIME BLOTTER**

October 22 - October 28, 2004

Prepared by: Lt. Richard Cipperly

This blotter is not intended to be inclusive of all crime and arrests reported to the Takoma Park Police Department

On October 23 at 12:15 am at the intersection of Belford Place and New Hampshire Avenue, an armed robbery occurred. An adult male was approached by a subject after parking his cab in an apartment complex parking lot. When the victim opened his cab window, the subject pointed a handgun at him and demanded money. After the victim handed over his cash, the subject fled in a small black vehicle (no further description given). The victim was not injured. The suspect was described as a black male, dark complexion, wearing dark clothing.

On October 24, between 2:00 pm and 10:19 pm in the 900 block of Sligo Creek Parkway, a residential burglary occurred. A window of the residence was forced open in order to gain entry. Property was taken.

On October 25, at 10:30 pm in the 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue, a sexual assault occurred. An adult female entered a residential elevator along with several others. After all but the victim and one subject exited the elevator, the subject grabbed the victim from behind, maneuvering himself against her. After noticing that the suspect's pants were down, the victim broke away, screamed and fled the elevator. The victim was not physically hurt during the incident. The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 34 years old, 6', heavy build, brown eyes, dark complexion, wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and grey sweat pants.

On October 26, at 1:43 am in the 6300 block of New Hampshire Avenue, a commercial burglary occurred. A glass panel in a door was damaged in order to gain entry. Nothing was reported stolen.

Arrests:

On October 23 at 6:12 pm in the 1300 block of University Blvd., an adult male was arrested and charged with Uttering/Forging a Document.

On October 23 at 11:50 pm in the 1300 block of University Blvd., criminal citations were issued to two adult males for Possession of CDS Paraphernalia. One of the subjects was also arrested on an open Montgomery County Warrant for Failure to Appear in Court on a Trespassing charge.

On October 24 at 8:00 pm in the 7500 block of Maple Avenue, an adult male was arrested on an open warrant from Takoma Park for 1st and 2nd Degree Assault.

On October 26 at 10:51 pm in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue, two adult males were arrested and charged with Theft Over \$500.

On October 27 at 12:56 am in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue, an adult female was arrested on an open warrant from Montgomery County for Failure to Appear in Court on a charge of Possession of CDS Paraphernalia. On October 28 at 2:29 am at the intersection of Piney Branch Road and Flower Avenue, citations for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Driving While Impaired by Alcohol were issued to an adult male.

On October 28 at 9:36 pm in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue, a criminal citation for trespassing was issued to an adult male.

On October 28 at 11:00 pm in the 8200 block of Flower Avenue, citations were issued to an adult female for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Driving While Impaired by Alcohol

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